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1-2015

GEO 105N.01: Oceanography

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Geosciences 105, Oceanography

Spring 2015 MW 5:10 to 6:30

Dr. Nancy W. Hinman
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Expectations:

At the end, students are expected to have a general understanding of

- the origin of the earth and ocean basins,
- the geology of the ocean floor and the processes that control its topography,
- materials on the seafloor whether living or inanimate,
- the role of the oceans in climate control,
- processes and patterns of oceanic and atmospheric circulation,
- seawater chemistry,
- marine productivity, and
- some biology of marine organisms.

Assessment and Grading Policies:

Assignments:

Assignments will be completed online or in class. Assignments will be taken from reading materials, in class topics, and the internet. All assignments taken together will constitute 40% of the overall course grade. ***Late assignments will be accepted with a 25% reduction in points (taken from the initial point value) within 1 week of the due date.***

Examinations:

Examinations have two parts: online and in-class. The online portion of the exam must be completed prior to the class exam session. The exam will be available online at least 24 hours ahead of the class. In-class examinations will be administered at the times scheduled below. Each part is worth approximately the same. Material will come from reading materials, class notes and discussions, and in-class videos. Online exams will contain multiple-choice questions. In-class exams will be a combination short-answer and diagramming questions. There will be 4 examinations, 3 to count for the course grade. If you miss an exam then that will become the dropped score. If you miss an exam without notifying me ahead of time with a valid excuse, you will not be allowed to make up the missed exam.

Spelling:

Spelling errors will be counted on all assignments; 2 misspelled words will count for 1 point. Up to 10 different misspelled words will be allowed on examinations. After 10 spelling errors on an exam, 2 misspelled words will count for 1 point. If a word is in the reading assignments or has been presented in class, it will be considered to be on the spelling list.

Course grading scheme:

Assignments (5)	200 pts.
Examinations (3)	210 pts.
Final Examination	90 pts.
Total	500 pts.

Grades will be based on performance relative to a scale of $> 90\% = A$, $80 - 89\% = B$, $70 - 79\% = C$, $60 - 69\% = D$, $< 59\% = F$. These divisions are guidelines and represent a maximum performance required to achieve a particular grade; the grading scale may slide downward but will not slide upward.

Text:

Sebastian Junger, The Perfect Storm, 1997, any publisher or copy. (PS)

This course has an online supplement on which are posted additional reading and viewing materials.

Plagiarism

This course adheres to the Student Conduct Code ([Student Conduct Code](#)). It is imperative that student perform their own work and contribute to group work equally. To present someone else's work as your own is plagiarism. Of times plagiarism takes the form of using sentences or diagrams from published work without proper citation. Plagiarism won't be tolerated in this class. In particular, note this definition ([plagiarism](#)).

Dates	Topics, Exam dates
1-26, 28	Introduction to Oceanography, Earth
2-2, 4	Plate Tectonics, The Sea Floor
2-9, 11	The Sea Floor, Sediments
2- 16, 18	2/16 – no class, Study session is 2/17, 6:40 p.m 2-18 Exam 1
2-23, 25	Water
3-2, 4	Atmosphere and Oceans -
3-9, 11	Ocean Circulation
3-16, 18	Waves and Tides
3-23, 25	Review and recap. Study session is 3/24, 6:40 pm 3-25 Exam 2

3-30, 4-1	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>
4-6, 8	Coasts, Estuaries, Environmental
4-13, 15	Oceanic Environment and Productivity
4-20, 22	Life in the Water
4-27, 29	Life on the Sea Floor - Study session is 4/28, 6:40 p.m. 4-29, Exam 3
5-4, 6	Marine Resources
5-13	Final Exam: 5:30 to 7:30 pm